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6th December, 1956

Professor J. Lederberg, Dept. of Genetics, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis. U.S.A.

Dear Josh,

I gather you'll be over next year for Ponte's meeting and a Ciba meeting, and we're hoping that you and Esther will be able to fit in a visit to Cambridge. There are many people here who would like to see you, and of course we'd be only too happy to put you up. Have you any idea when you might be here?

I've just been on a visit to Edinburgh. Avrion Mitchison asked me to mention that they'd also like you to visit them if you can manage it.

Nothing exciting here except that our blochemist, Vernon Ingram, has gone a long way to establishing an amino acid difference between normal and sickle-cell haemoglobin, which, if confirmed, will be the first case of a mendelian gene altering an amino-acid sequence in a protein. There was a brief account recently in Nature. Sydney Brenner arrives at the end of this month, and we have plans to try a similar sort of thing in phage.

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With best wishes to you both.

Yours ever,

F. H. C. Crick